

related dementias. The NIA also supports the training and career development of scientists focusing on aging research and the development of research resources. The symposium, meant for junior faculty and emerging scholars, will provide an update on the latest research findings from the NIA followed by a brief update on funding mechanisms. An opportunity is provided to meet and consult with NIA extramural staff.

OVERVIEW OF NIA RESEARCH

Richard Hodes¹, *1. National Institute on Aging, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland, United States*

Dr. Hodes will provide an overview of the latest research in basic biology, neuroscience, behavioral and social science, and geriatrics and clinical gerontology supported by the NIA.

HOW TO GET AN NIA GRANT

Robin A. Barr¹, *1. National Institute on Aging, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland, United States*

Dr. Barr will provide an overview of the various funding mechanisms supported by NIA, with emphasis on mechanisms that are most appropriate for early career scientists.

SESSION 2140 (SYMPOSIUM)

INTEREST GROUP SESSION—KOREAN AND KOREAN AMERICAN AND AGING: UNDERSTANDING THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF OLDER KOREAN AMERICANS FROM CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES

Chair: Miyong T. Kim, *University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas, United States*

Co-Chair: David Chiriboga, *University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida, United States*

Discussant: Barbara Yee, *University of Hawaii at Mānoa, Honolulu, Hawaii, United States*

Despite tremendous progress in improving health in the U.S. in recent years, many ethnic minority populations still experience significant health disparity gaps that stem from a lack of valid research and culturally sensitive service infrastructures for those populations. Our previous research indicates that overwhelming numbers of older Korean Americans, a first-generation immigrant group, suffer not only from health issues but also from a lack of self-confidence and a feeling of social isolation because of language and cultural barriers. In addition, many older Korean Americans lack personal resources and health literacy to overcome those barriers when they attempt to access the complicated U.S. health care system. The purpose of this symposium is to promote the understanding of the health and well-being of older Korean Americans and identify their vulnerabilities and resilience. A series of five community-based studies of older Korean Americans conducted in multiple locations (e.g., FL, HI, TX, NY, CA, MD, VA, DC, MN, and IL) that covers diverse topics on health and well-being (e.g., health literacy, chronic disease management intervention, physical/mental/oral/cognitive health, end-of-life issues, diabetes, cancer, and dementia), using various methodologies (e.g., quantitative surveys, qualitative interviews, focus groups, and randomized controlled trials) will be presented. The issues of diversities and disparities will be discussed from the cultural perspectives, as well as implications for future research and practice.

PHYSICAL-MENTAL-ORAL-COGNITIVE HEALTH IN OLDER KOREAN AMERICANS: A MULTISITE STUDY

Yuri Jang,¹ Nan Sook Park,² Min-Kyoung Rhee,¹ Hyunwoo Yoon,³ Yong Ju Cho,⁴ miyong T. Kim,⁴ and David A. Chiriboga², *1. University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California, United States, 2. University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida, United States, 3. Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas, United States, 4. University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas, United States*

Using data from surveys with older Korean Americans ($n = 2,150$) conducted at five sites in the U.S. (California, New York, Texas, Hawaii, and Florida), the present study explored the status of physical/mental/oral/cognitive health and its determinants. For each health domain, we examined how self-rating (excellent/very good/good/fair/poor) of health was associated with other domain-relevant indicators (e.g., the number of chronic diseases, symptoms of depression, problems with teeth or gums, or cognitive performance) and sociocultural factors (e.g., socioeconomic status, acculturation, social network, and social cohesion). Geographic variation was also considered. The correlations between self-ratings and domain-relevant indicators in all health domains were significant but moderate. A series of multivariate regression models of self-ratings of physical/mental/oral/cognitive health not only confirmed the effect of the domain-relevant health indicators but also demonstrated a critical contribution of sociocultural determinants. Implications for older immigrants were discussed in terms of place, culture, and context.

THE ROLE OF HEALTH LITERACY ON PROCESS AND OUTCOMES OF A DIABETES SELF-HELP INTERVENTION WITH KOREAN AMERICANS

Miyong T. Kim¹, *1. University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas, United States*

The purpose of this study was to explicate the underlying mechanisms of the role of health literacy (HL) in diabetes management process involving a group of Korean Americans with type 2 diabetes mellitus (DM). We used data from a randomized clinical trial of an HL-focused diabetes self-management intervention ($n = 250$). A series of path analyses identified the level of self-efficacy and self-care skills as a significant mediator between HL and glucose control (HbA1C) and quality of life for the target population. In addition, education and acculturation were revealed as the most significant correlates of HL for this new immigrant group. Despite inconsistent empirical findings regarding the statistically significant effect of HL on glucose control, this study confirmed the apriority hypothesis that HL indirectly influences health outcome through mediators such self-care skills as self-efficacy. This study highlighted the importance of HL in chronic disease management for people with limited HL.

MOBILE APP INTERVENTION TO PROMOTE BREAST CANCER SCREENING IN OLDER KOREAN AMERICAN WOMEN

Hee Y. Lee¹, *1. The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, United States*

To promote breast cancer screening behavior in older Korean American women, a mobile phone multimedia messaging intervention (mMammogram) was developed.